

# **Inheritance and Protection Strategies of National Folk Music and Art in China**

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**Abstract:** Folk music is an important part of our national culture as well as the crystallization of thousands of years of wisdom of the working people of the Chinese nation. The national folk music of our country was summarized and its value of cultural inheritance was pointed out. The important way and strategy of inheritance and protection of ethnic folk music and art is to spread and inherit ethnic folk music and art through various teaching methods based on the teaching of colleges and universities, which is conducive to adolescents to achieve the inheritance and dissemination of folk music culture, and make our national folk music culture shine.

## **1. Introduction**

As a traditional Chinese music culture, national folk music is attracting attention from all aspects of society. In today's society, it has become an important trend for contemporary international music education to attach importance to the inheritance of national music culture and to recognize and understand other national music culture. Taking non-music majors, a group with high cultural quality, as the research object, and ethnic folk music culture as the research content, we should rationally arrange the curriculum, improve the teaching staff, adopt flexible teaching methods, make use of the campus environment to create a good cultural atmosphere of ethnic folk music, and utilize the local folk music culture resources to carry out the teaching of national folk music and other methods. Among non-music majors, we should promote our national folk music culture, gradually cultivate college students' sense of inheritance of national folk music culture, so that after receiving the education of national folk music culture, college students can use self-dissemination method to inherit and disseminate music, and at the same time, use interpersonal communication methods and their own professional advantages to inherit and disseminate national folk music culture in various fields of society, so as to carry forward our national folk music culture. As an important disseminator and inheritor of science and culture, college students should shoulder the historical responsibility of inheriting folk music culture.

## **2. Inheritance Value of Folk Music Culture**

### **2.1. An artistic expression of folk culture**

The difference of folk music style is essentially the difference of regional folk culture [1]. It is precisely the difference of regional folk culture that constitutes the richness of folk music. Folk music is one of the important manifestations of regional folk culture. Hundreds of miles different wind, thousands of miles different customs profoundly reveal the regional differences of culture, which are mainly influenced by local social and economic life, social structure, national psychology, religious beliefs, folk customs and language [2]. Music, as far as its external characteristics are concerned, is undoubtedly an artistic phenomenon in human culture, but it is by no means an isolated artistic phenomenon. When putting it into the background of human culture, we will find that the formation and development of music culture, as well as the creation and inheritance of music works, are inextricably linked with all aspects of social culture [3].

### **2.2. An important medium for the dissemination of religious culture and totem culture**

Religious culture and totem culture originated from the ancestors' witchcraft activities and sacrificial rituals. Because of the mysterious understanding of nature in the early stage of human

beings, people tried to use a supernatural force to control the gods and ghosts and human beings. Therefore, witchcraft activities and sacrificial activities came into being at the historic moment. Music is the most easily expressed cultural phenomenon of human feelings, so it is the best object used by witchcraft psychology and spiritual worship. Throughout the history of music development, music has been integrated with the original witchcraft and religious activities since its birth, especially the music and dance in Chinese folk music, which is a part of religion and totem culture, and an important medium to achieve religious purposes [4].

### **2.3. An artistic expression embodying the unique style of national culture**

Regionality is an important reason for the formation of aesthetic characteristics of national folk music. In the vast territory of our country, each region has its own unique musical characteristics, such as the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau breeds loud and high-pitched songs, the desert breeds passionate and unrestrained music, the Loess Hill breeds a rough and heroic voice, and the south of the Yangtze River breeds the beautiful intonation. Without this land and people, there would never be such a voice of nature [5]. The vast territory of China breeds the national music with different characteristics of language, melody and rhythm. The traditional culture of our nation is itself a blending culture of all nationalities, and it is now a large family of 56 nationalities. It can be said that every nation has its own music language [6].

## **3. Music Education in Colleges and Universities**

Nowadays, seeking local cultural resources has become the basic national policy for all countries and nationalities to seek survival and promote development [7]. Under such a background, the national music culture has also been mentioned as an important resource of local culture. The voice of inheriting the local music culture is also growing. Standing at the height of the times, as an important part of school music education, music education in colleges and universities should take the inheritance of national folk music culture as an important work to implement. As the highest link of school education, ordinary colleges and universities have developed rapidly since the reform and opening up, and the development of music education in quality education is in a good situation [8].

College students are a group of young people with more cultural knowledge and an important carrier of youth culture. The cultural thinking of contemporary Chinese music education also combs the two systems of "human" and "art" in traditional Chinese music education, and criticizes the tendency of emphasizing skills over arts but neglecting cultural consciousness in the field of music education. Colleges and universities in China are generally enrolled nationwide, and the cultural convergence of different nationalities and regions is one of its characteristics [9]. College students come to the same university from different regions, not only to learn scientific and cultural knowledge here, but also to bring their local language, living habits, customs, etc. Therefore, the university is not only a carrier of culture, but also a place of socialization, where various social and cultural activities are in full swing. If we can use this place to carry out folk music cultural activities, it will play a positive role in promoting the inheritance of folk music culture [10].

## **4. Strategies for Popularizing Chinese Folk Music Culture**

### **4.1. Reasonable arrangement of curriculum**

In the course setting of public music in colleges and universities, the elective courses of public music concerning the content of national folk music culture in China should be offered separately, so as to attach importance to the development of national folk music education, vigorously promote the excellent national folk music culture in China, and gradually cultivate college students' awareness of the inheritance of national folk music culture in China. In addition, through the investigation, it is also found that there is no music elective course with folk music content in some colleges and universities, for there is the lack of teachers. Therefore, it is believed that at present, ordinary colleges and universities which have no conditions to set up elective courses of folk music

can properly increase the proportion of the content of folk music culture in the class hours of comprehensive elective courses of music, so as to enable students to have as much time as possible in the classroom to understand our national folk music culture.

#### **4.2. Improving teachers' national and folk music literacy**

The course of national folk music covers a wide range of subjects, so that teachers are required not only to have a deeper cultural background of national folk music, but also to have comprehensive and solid professional knowledge. For the teachers engaged in music education in Colleges and universities, it should be the most important issue to continue to improve their knowledge structure, constantly improve their professional ability, and strive to improve their quality and professional level. In addition to their own hard study, it is a temporary measure to adopt the help of various social school-running forces, such as to participate in short-term or long-term training courses on national music.

#### **4.3. Adopting flexible teaching methods**

China's national folk music has various forms and rich contents. Therefore, on the basis of music appreciation, some lectures and observation should be inserted in this music elective course to expand students' artistic vision, so that they can better learn and understand our excellent national folk music culture and promote its inheritance.

#### **4.4. Creating national folk music culture atmosphere**

College campus can be said to be the "second home" of college students. Therefore, we should make use of the environment to create a good atmosphere of national folk music culture for college students and help them to learn and understand it. Teachers can organize college students to collect some exquisite pictures of folk music performances such as folk songs, operas, folk music, etc., hold the national folk musicians' portrait exhibition and instrumental music picture exhibition, guide students to form folk music performance groups, carry out activities such as folk song contests, folk music concerts, invite experts to lecture, and even professional performance groups to perform in schools, etc. In addition, the school's television and radio stations can often introduce and broadcast some excellent folk music works of our country, actively cooperate with classroom teaching from the side to create a national folk music culture atmosphere for students.

#### **4.5. Developing folk music teaching**

For a long time, due to the neglect of the inheritance of national folk music culture in school education, the inheritance of national folk music culture in China mainly depends on folk music associations, and the activities are mainly carried out in rural and urban-rural areas. Therefore, in addition to organizing teachers and students to go to various nationalities and regions for collecting styles, colleges and universities should take advantage of local music cultural resources and adopt the method of "go out, come in" to encourage and organize teachers and students to collect local folk music materials in the areas where the schools are located, or invite local folk artists into university classrooms to teach folk music to teachers and students.

### **5. Conclusion**

China is a country with a long history and profound cultural inheritance. The cultural inheritance of Chinese folk music is of great value. Ethnic folk music is not only an artistic form of folk culture, but also an important medium for the dissemination of religious culture and totem culture, reflecting the unique style of national culture and some social phenomena in different historical periods. Music education in colleges and universities is one of the important ways to inherit national folk music culture. According to the present situation of teaching in colleges and universities in China, the strategies of popularizing folk music culture in colleges and universities are as follows: rationally arranging curriculum, improving teachers' cultural accomplishment of folk music, adopting flexible and diverse teaching forms, creating a good cultural atmosphere of folk music,

and utilizing local cultural resources to carry out teaching.

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